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NEWS RELEASE

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For O'ahu Media Release:
September 17, 2002

Judiciary Offers Free Seminar: "When and How to Use a Lawyer and How to Find One"

The Hawai'i State Judiciary is sponsoring a free, informational session on Wednesday, September 25, 2002, in the Supreme Court courtroom at 417 South King Street on the topic, "When and How to Use a Lawyer and How to Find One." The program will begin at 12 noon and will last approximately one hour.

Attorneys James Kawachika and Michael Gibson will speak about when to involve a lawyer and what to expect once a lawyer is contacted. Participants will also learn how to select a lawyer and about a lawyer's training, duties, qualifications, and responsibilities.

Kawachika, who has more than 28 years of experience in law, is a senior partner in the law firm of Reinwald, O'Connor & Playdon LLP, and practices in the areas of civil and commercial litigation. He has served as chair of the Disciplinary Board of the Hawai'i Supreme Court and as president of the Hawai'i State Bar Association. He received his law degree from the University of California at Berkeley (Boalt Hall School of Law).

Gibson has practiced law with the firm of Ashford & Wriston in both Honolulu and Kailua-Kona since 1976. Active in community activities, he currently serves as president of the Hawai'i State Bar Association, and has also served as president of the Legal Aid Society of Hawai'i and Hawai'i Lawyers Care (now known as Volunteer Legal Services of Hawai'i). He received his law degree from Hastings College of Law.

The "[Lunch 'n' Learn the Law](#)" program is a series of free informational seminars for the general public featuring topics relating to specific areas of the law and the courts. Volunteer presenters include judges, attorneys, court officials, and other subject-matter experts.

For more information, contact the Judiciary's Public Affairs Office at (808) 539-4909.

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